

## Message Text

PAGE 01 LONDON 11337 021840Z

73

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 021747Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4429

S E C R E T LONDON 11337

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT

1. IMPENDING VISIT OF SECRETARY HAS, AS EXPECTED, TRIGGERED HIGH-LEVEL MEDIA INTEREST. VIRTUALLY EVERY BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION AND NEWSPAPER, INCLUDING RESIDENT US CORRESPONDENTS AND NETWORKS, HAVE PUT IN BIDS FOR PRESS INTERVIEWS, BRIEFINGS AND ANY OTHER MEDIA EXPOSURE SECRETARY MAY BE WILLING TO PROVIDE. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE HAD REQUESTS FOR SECRETARY TO BE LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER OF TOP JOURNALIST GROUPS, SUCH AS FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION, AND OTHERS.
2. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE DECISIONS ON SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS AT THIS STAGE, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE OR ADVICE ON FOLLOWING:
  - A. IS SECRETARY INTERESTED IN ANY PUBLIC FORUM IN ADDITION TO PILGRIMS?
  - B. WILL SECRETARY WISH TO HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE? EMBASSY HAS A 180-SEAT AUDITORIUM. (WHEN IT BECOMES KNOWN THAT THERE WILL BE A COM CONFERENCE AND OTHER MEETINGS DURING SECRETARY'S LONDON STAY, WE ANTICIPATE STRONG PRESSURE FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE.)
  - C. WILL SECRETARY MAKE ARRIVAL AND/OR DEPARTURE STATEMENTS? (IN VIEW OF GREAT INTEREST IN VISIT WE EXPECT SUBSTANTIAL PRESS PRESENCE AT AIRPORT ARRIVAL. PERHAPS SECRETARY MIGHT TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AP-SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 11337 021840Z

PROPRIATE COMMENTS ABOUT COM CONFERENCE AND HIS OTHER MEETINGS IN LONDON.)

- D. WILL THERE BE STATE DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENTS ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY? IF SO, HOW MANY? (HOTEL SPACE

IS TIGHT; THEREFORE WE HOPE THAT IF CORRESPONDENTS AC-COMPANY, THEY WILL MAKE HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS ON THEIR OWN OR THROUGH THEIR LONDON BUREAUS. EMBASSY WOULD OF COURSE ASSIST AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IF DESIRED.)

E. ASSUME SECRETARY'S PRESS SPOKESMAN WILL WISH APPROPRIATE FACILITIES RESERVED FOR MEETING AND BRIEFING SELECTED CORRESPONDENTS. WE SUGGEST SUITE AT CLARIDGES. IN ADDITION TO FORMAL OR INFORMAL BRIEFINGS, WOULD SPOKESMAN BE AVAILABLE FOR TV OR RADIO INTERVIEWS OR TALK SHOWS?

3. CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE. WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN - ANY PRESS REPORTS OF COM CONFERENCE.

A. WILL DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCE CONFERENCE, OR, IF NOT, WILL DEPARTMENT BRIEF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS INFORMALLY ABOUT CONFERENCE? IF LATTER, WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE GUIDANCE SO THAT EMBASSY CAN RESPOND TO QUERIES ONCE FACT OF CONFERENCE BECOMES KNOWN.

B. WILL SECRETARY'S SPOKESMAN BRIEF PRESS FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY DURING COURSE OF COM CONFERENCE?

C. WILL THERE BE GENERAL BRIEFING FOR PRESS AT END OF CONFERENCE?

4. PILGRIM'S SPEECH. ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDIA COVERAGE OF OCTOBER 15 ADDRESS ARE BEING HANDLED BY THE PILGRIM SOCIETY WITH OUR GENERAL BACKUP AND ASSISTANCE.

A. BBC AND OTHERS WISH TO DO TV COVERAGE OF SPEECH. WOULD SECRETARY HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO THIS IF SATISFACTORY, UNEXCLUSIVE FACILITIES ARE POSSIBLE?

B. PILGRIMS HAVE ONLY SMALL NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE FOR CORRESPONDENTS AT DINNER. THERE HAVE

ALREADY BEEN FAR MORE REQUESTS FOR PRESS SPACE THAN CAN BE ACCOMMODATED AND POOL ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE NECESSARY.

C. HOW FAR IN ADVANCE WILL TEXT OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH BE AVAILABLE?

5. RECOGNIZE WE HAVE RAISED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WHICH IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ANSWER SOON; HOWEVER, WE ARE  
SECRET

PAGE 03 LONDON 11337 021840Z

BEING PRESSED BY PILGRIMS ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 15 SPEECH AND WOULD APPRECIATE EARLIEST POSSIBLE REACTION TO PARA 4 ABOVE.

ANNENBERG

SECRET

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